

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the Final Office Action dated April 18, 2008, on the above identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 26, 27, 29-32, 38-40, and 43 are pending in this application.

With this amendment, claims 26, 29, 31, 32, and 39 are amended.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claims 26, 27, 29-32, 38-40, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. As suggested by the Examiner, claims 26, 29, 31, and 32 have been amended by adding 'pressurized' after 'columns' in line 9 of each claim. Also as suggested by the Examiner, claim 39 has been amended to add 'means for pressurizing the cryogenic liquid' at the end of line 9.

The Examiner notes that 'calls to make the above changes by Examiner's amendment were not returned', for which applicant apologizes. However, on March 27, the undersigned attorney for applicant placed a call to the Examiner and received his voicemail. A detailed message was left, along with the invitation to contact said attorney (at his office in Paris), contact him by e-mail or to contact the Houston office again. It was mistakenly believed that this voicemail message resolved the outstanding issue of approving this examiner's amendment. Applicant respectfully requests that the present amendments be entered in view of this attempt to contact the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-1375.

Respectfully submitted,

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